THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI M. KANNAPPAN): (a) to (c) The Ministry of Non-Conventional Energy Sources has prepared a draft Renewable Energy Policy Statement. The objective of the Policy Statement is to enhance the contribution of renewables, namely, solar wind, biomass and small hydro by meeting minimum rural energy needs; providing decentralised/off-grid supply for agriculture, industry, commercial and household sectors in rural and urban areas; and grid quality power generation and supply.

The draft of the Policy Statement has been submitted by the Ministry for further approvals.

Private participation in Non-Conventional Energy Sector

1458. SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH: Will the Minister of NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether IREDA has not been able to sufficiently attract private capital and participation in non-conventional energy sector;

(b) whether it is a fact that the incentives and guarantees suggested by IREDA are inadequate to comfort and encourage private sector;

(c) whether the causes of failure have been explored; and

(d) what corrective steps are proposed by IREDA to stimulate the private sector in entering the non-conventional energy sources?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI M. KANNAPPAN): (a) and (b) No, Sir. IREDA has been able to attract private capital and participation in the non-conventional energy sector. IREDA has been providing financial assistance to private sector for manufacturing renewable energy systems and devices and also for power generating projects through renewable energy sources apart from providing consumer loans directly and through intermediaries.

As a result of the various incentives, concessions and rebates

provided and guarantees suggested by IREDA, it has been able to sanction loans of Rs. 3412.88 crores and disburse Rs. 1403.96 crores till 31/12/99 for the various renewable energy projects, which are mainly in private sector.

(c) Question does not arise.

(d) IREDA has been reviewing its lending policies and taking corrective measures from time to time, keeping in view the development in the renewable energy sector, RBI guidelines and policies followed by other leading financial institutions. Promotional and developmental efforts are also undertaken in association with State Governments and allied agencies for generating projects through private sector.

Generation of Solar and Wind Energy

1459. SHRI K. RAHMAN KHAN: Will the Minister of NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the quantum of solar and wind energy generated during the last three years; and

(b) the concrete steps taken to increase their generation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI M. KANNAPPAN): (a) The quantum of energy generated from solar and wind power projects during the last three years is given below:

1996-97 878 million Kwh

1997-98 988 million Kwh

1998-99 1065 million Kwh

(b) Funds are provided for a limited number of demonstration projects. The Central and State Governments also provide fiscal and financial incentives, including relief from taxes and duties, accelerated depreciation, etc. 14 States have so far announced promotional policies for wheeling, banking and buy-back of electricity generated from commercial projects. Soft loans are also provided by the Indian